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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/028,344

12/21/2001

David A. Beyer

NC15785

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03/07/2006

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EXAMINER

PATEL, AJIT

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2664

DATE MAILED: 03/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/028,344	BEYER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	AJIT G. PATEL	2664	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 December 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,7,10,11,15 and 19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-6,8,9,12-14 and 16-118 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1 PAGE</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Art Unit: 2664

1. Claim 15 recites the limitation ""said operation of buffering"" in line 12. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

2. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: In claim 1, line 4, after "and", "at" should be inserted. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 15 is objected to because of the following informalities: In line 8, after "signal", "of values representative of a reference time" should be inserted. In line 10, after "stations", "of the wireless mesh network" should be inserted. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 16 is objected to because of the following informalities: In line 2, the recitation "latching a buffered value of the reference time" should be changed to -- buffering latched values of the reference time--.

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1,7,10,11,15,19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Le Scolan et al (US 2005/0237928).

Regarding claims 1,15, Le Scolan et al disclose method and device for the synchronization between two networks comprising a network time register coupled to receive a time reference signal of values representative of a reference time, said network time register for buffering and maintaining updated values of the reference time (para. 0058,0200,0201); and a data formatter coupled to said network time register, said data formatter for formatting the data to be communicated between the first and at least second communication stations of the wireless mesh network, the data, once formatted, including indicia associated with the updated values of the reference time buffered at said network time register (para. 0059).

Regarding claims 7,19, Le Scolan et al disclose the limitation “wherein the data communicated between the first communication station and the at least the second communication station comprises packet data and wherein said data formatter formats the data into data packets of which at least selected ones of the data packets include the indicia associated with the updated values of the reference time” (para. 0075).

Regarding claim 10. Le Scolan et al disclose the limitation “a clock oscillator, said clock oscillator for generating the time reference signal, values of which said network time register is coupled to receive” (para. 0155,0158).

Regarding claim 11, Le Scolan et al disclose the limitation “interface circuitry coupled to said clock oscillator and to said network time register, said interface circuitry coupled to receive an externally-generated master clock signal, and said interface circuitry for selectively biasing the clock oscillator to alter the time reference signal generated thereat” (para. 0233- 0239).

5. Claims 2-6,8,9,12-14,16-18,20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to AJIT G. PATEL whose telephone number is 571-272-3140. The examiner can normally be reached on MONDAY-THURSDAY.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wellington Chin can be reached on 571-272-3134. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Ajit Patel
Primary Examiner